



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

April 28, 2003

The Honorable Jack Dalrymple
Senate Chambers
President of the Senate
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: SENATE BILL 2154, the K-12 Education Funding Bill

Dear President Dalrymple,

Senate Bill 2154 does not commit any increase in education funding to teacher compensation in order to continue the progress that we initiated in the last legislative session. I offered increasing teacher compensation payments or earmarking state aid for education for compensation increases. There may be other ways to do it, but we must continue forward.

We have made progress over the past two years in our effort to lift North Dakota from 50th in the nation in teacher salaries. We cannot simply go back to the old way of doing things.

I therefore veto this bill.

Sincerely,

/S/

John Hoeven
Governor

cc: Senate Majority Leader Bob Stenehjem
House Majority Leader Rick Berg
Senate Minority Leader David P. O'Connell
House Minority Leader Merle Boucher